

**CITY OF MILPITAS  
SENIOR ADVISORY COMMISSION**

<b>Minutes:</b>	<b>Senior Advisory Commission</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>May 20, 2003</b>
<b>Place of Meeting:</b>	<b>Milpitas City Hall, Committee Meeting Room</b>

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**I. CALL TO ORDER  
& PLEDGE**

Chairperson Weisgerber called the meeting to order at 1:30PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioners Present: Mary Banick, Bal Daquigan, Steve Lu, Bakshish Sandhu, Albert Wang, Joanne Wood and Denny Weisgerber.

Commissioners Absent: Jim Burns and Carlos Fabregas.

Alternates Present: Frances Woodworth was seated for Commissioner Burns and Amanda Santos was seated for Commissioner Fabregas.

Council Liaison: Councilmember Althea Polanski

Staff Present: Kathleen Yurchak, Recreation Services Supervisor

**II. MINUTES**

MOTION: to approve the Minutes of the April 15, 2003, Senior Advisory Commission meeting.

M/S: Wood/Woodworth

Ayes: Unanimous

**III. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Recreation Services Supervisor, Yurchak read through the Financial Report. She reported staff purchased the digital camera for \$200 and she thanked the Commission.

MOTION: to approve the Financial Report as presented.

M/S: Lu/Wang

AYES: Unanimous

**IV. CITIZENS FORUM**

Mr. Al Garcia, Chairperson of the Milpitas Citizen Advisory Commission, 1134 Ridgemont Drive, spoke to the Commission on building neighborhood spirit and requested their support for National Night Out scheduled for Tuesday August 12, 2003. He asked Commissioners, as community leaders, to see if they could develop a Neighborhood Night Out in their neighborhoods. Currently there are about 6 during the year in the City of Milpitas

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and the hope is to double or triple that number. The importance of a Neighborhood Night Out is for everyone to promote neighborhood spirit, and in times of disaster or emergency, it is helpful to know everyone in the neighborhood. The City Council, Police and Fire Departments support this program. Mr. Garcia distributed information on how to set up a Neighborhood Night Out.

Commissioner Daquigan, on behalf of the Filipino American Association of Milpitas, invited everyone to the Annual Filipino Multi-Cultural Fiesta on Saturday, June 7, 2003, from 2:00 – 8:00 p.m. This free admission event includes social dancing, multi-cultural performances, Filipino costumes, folkdances, songs, food (to be sold at reasonable prices), and exhibits.

## **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ CORRESPONDENCE**

Recreation Services Supervisor, Yurchak read the announcements as noted on page 1 of the agenda.

Supervisor Yurchak reported that she did not receive a response from VTA on the Commission's letter to them expressing disapproval of the extent of the proposed increases and that a lesser amount of increase should be considered. Councilmember Polanski stated that Vice-Mayor Dixon sits on the VTA Board and she is aware of the Commission's letter and that it was received by VTA.

To further promote the Senior Center programs and especially National Older Americans Month, the Senior Center created bookmarks and the activities taking place throughout the month of May, distributed through the Milpitas Library and Borders Books and Music.

Commissioner Banick reported that she and Commissioners Wood and Woodworth have committed to participate with ARRP in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.

Chief Lawson arrived later in the meeting and reported that yesterday morning, the first homicide in the City in the last 2 years occurred. It was a domestic dispute on Midway between Arizona and North Milpitas Boulevard.

The Statewide "Buckle Up" week campaign, led by the Highway Patrol, started yesterday. Officers will be looking for those persons not utilizing their seat belts. About once a year, there is special emphasis just on seat belts.

The Police Department's Citizen's Academy is open; this is for citizens who wish to learn more about the Police Department, how

it operates, response times, patrol of neighborhoods, etc. The classes were first offered in 1996, there have been about 2 or 3 classes per year and are 7 weeks long.

## **VI. AGENDA**

MOTION to adopt the Agenda for April 15, 2003, Commission meeting, as submitted.

M/S: Lu/Daquigan

Ayes: Unanimous

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Senior Issues Project Update**

Supervisor Yurchak read the report on Page 3 of the Agenda. The Council Subcommittee met on April 29 and discussed the five items as listed in the report:

Review of layout of the Temporary Senior Center Modulares. Staff is currently working with PG&E to move forward with utility installation. No date has been given from PG&E.

Discussion of recommended site selection of the new Senior Center at the existing site on N. Main St.

Discussion of recommended approval of maintaining the existing building for the new Senior Center.

Discussion of recommended approval of the new renovation and addition of the new Senior Center on the south side of the facility.

Direction of staff to continue working on the layout and design of the future Senior Center.

Staff will continue to work as directed and is anticipating meeting with the Council Subcommittee in June to finalize items prior to the City Council presentation to obtain approval for the items listed above. It is anticipated the Committee's recommendations will go to Council in August.

Approval for the modulares are on the Council Agenda for tonight, so once the Council approves, work will begin starting with ground leveling, cement pouring, utility work and then placement of the modulares.

In response to Chairperson Weisgerber, Supervisor Yurchak stated that it is her belief that maintaining the existing building for the new Senior Center means that the building would be gutted, cleaned of the bad materials such as lead, mold and asbestos, and the breaking down of unnecessary interior walls. The façade would be left and the interior would then be renovated.

Note, receipt and file.

## **2. Senior Advisory Commission Project Updates**

France Woodworth, facilitator of the Housing/Senior Center Task Force reported on affordable housing information she received from Margo at Santa Clara Housing. Anything below market value is considered affordable housing. Low income is income under \$36,990 and \$735 for rent or space, very low income for 2 people is \$47,120 and \$473 for rent or space and Section 8 is considered 30% of income. Two new affordable housing opportunities are Gadberry Circle Senior Housing at 2555 Alum Rock, San Jose; Shiroz Sr. Housing at 1295 McLaughlin, San Jose and others are Zilla – east side, Brancher, Santa Clara, El Pardo, Campbell, John Burns River Marsh, Santa Clara, Maroni in Almaden and Rose Garden in Willow Glen.

Sura Weiner, 424 Woodcock Ct. read a report from Lechi Nguyen of the Milpitas Senior Center staff, regarding the VTA Public meeting on May 1, 2003. She read the summarized VTA's proposed plans (3) regarding accessible services.

- 1) Modify minimum account balance: Disallowing customers from scheduling additional trips once a negative account balance of \$15.00 has been reached, discontinue the provision of any trips 14 days beyond that date.
- 2) 2) Implement ADA Service Area: Limit paratransit service for all new and current customers to the ADA-defined service area using the  $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile corridor aligned with VTA bus and light rail routes. Customers who live outside of the service area, or those who travel outside of the service area (such as Redwood City or Santa Cruz Mountains) will still be approved for paratransit service, but will not be allowed to take trips which begin or end outside of the ADA-defined service area. Potential savings, approximately \$960,000 annually.
- 3) Implement curb-to-curb service instead of door-to-door service. Providing service as close to the destination or pick up location as possible, within municipal traffic codes and without violating any applicable rules and regulations governing the facility at the destination or pick-up site. Potential savings: approximately \$400,000 to \$78,000 annually.

Comments from clients at the meeting: There are some concerns regarding the minimum balance account, as Outreach usually does not send the invoice in time (couple months behind), so customers are not aware of their negative balance. The majority of opposed comments are for the change of door-to-door, curb-to-curb service. People with Alzheimer's are blind or in wheel chairs and cannot go by

himself or herself to the needed destination. Door-to-door service is the main mission of Outreach; this should be maintained to serve frail, elderly people.

At that meeting, Mr. George Tacke of VTA stated that he would take the comments made at the meeting to the VTA Board meeting that same afternoon.

Commissioner Banick, facilitator of the Services & Programs Task Force stated that the report given earlier by Supervisor Yurchak covered the information sufficiently.

Commissioner Santos distributed Group Participation Guidelines for the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Committee celebration. She then reported on the last Committee meeting and summarized the celebration activities the Committee discussed. All the plans have been incorporated into a draft memorandum to the Mayor and City Council for their approval with a request for a \$55,000 appropriation to fund the yearlong celebration. The newest event proposed is the Birthday Party on January 26, 2004, which serves as a symbolic event to kick off the year celebration. The logo deadline is June 6, 2003, at 2:00 p.m.

The logo will be an additional, temporary logo used throughout the year, along with the City's official logo.

In response to Commissioner Woodworth, Chairperson Weisberger stated that community organizations will be sponsoring the celebration and Councilwoman Polanski reported that at the last City Council meeting, Council approved, conceptually, a balanced budget for the coming year. She pointed out that there has been a hiring freeze for the last two years, there were budget cuts made but services to the citizens of Milpitas were not cut. The 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Committee is making every attempt to keep costs down. Additionally, Milpitas is not participating in the All American City contest, and is thereby saving the \$75,000 contest entrance fee.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Cancellation of May 18, 2004 Meeting**

Supervisor Yurchak read the background on page 3 of the agenda.

MOTION: to cancel the May 18, 2004, Senior Advisory Commission meeting because May is an extremely busy and event heavy month due to the celebration of National Older Americans Month.

M/S: Banick/Woodworth

Ayes: Unanimous

## **IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **1. STAFF REPORTS**

## **1.1 Recreation Services**

Supervisor Yurchak read through the report on page 2 of the agenda.

## **1.2 Senior Center Nutrition**

Roseann Costabile read through the report on page 2 of the agenda. Additionally, she reported that the caterer the Senior Center uses, Bateman, will be moving their kitchen facility from the Moffett Field site to the Santa Clara facility. There may be a transition menu while they are making the move. Once they get into their new kitchen, they will have new equipment and may possibly offer different entrees and possibly an alternative to the chef salad. Doorhangers have been distributed in an effort to recruit more people coming to the Senior Center. The Santa Clara Senior Nutrition Center provided the door hangers, which volunteers distributed at 3 mobile home parks. Additionally door hangers were placed at Sunnyhills area. Over 350 door hangers were placed. If anyone knows of more areas where they believe door hangers should be placed, they should let Roseann know.

Roseann also informed the Commission she is serving on the Santa Clara County Elder Abuse Task Force, which meets once a month. A large grant was received for television and radio commercials "Face it – It's a crime". These will be aired for a year and they are also on Spanish radio. The commercials have a toll free number for those who need help.

Note, receipt and file.

## **2. LIAISON REPORTS**

### **2.1 City Council**

1) Councilmember Althea Polanski Beginning with the first City Council meeting in August 2003, the start time will be 7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m. 2) She thanked Chairperson Weisgerber for giving the Invocation at the State of the City Address held at City Hall. The event was free to the public, Mayor Esteves gave a wonderful speech and the event was well attended. 3) Mayor Esteves and his Wife Susanne were invited to a State Dinner in Washington, D.C. held last night; The President of the Philippines was visiting President Bush. Mayor Esteves had requested \$1,300, however the Philipino community presented the City with many checks to cover that \$1,300 expenditure. 4) The passport facility is in operation on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in the City Clerk's Office. The first month generated \$800.00 in revenue. Persons who wish to have passport assistance should be referred to the Information Desk, 586-3000. 5) Council approved a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Dagupan City, Philippines for a 2-year Sister City agreement. 6) Council approved a utility rate

increase effective after the first of July. The City does not have reserve dollars and the City is approaching its 50<sup>th</sup> year. It is the time when many of the underground utilities could begin to be in a state of disrepair. This increase will help to build up a reserve for those type of future critical needs. 7) City Council approved a resolution recognizing the flag of the former South Viet Nam as a symbol of Vietnamese Americans. 8) Mayor Dixon requested approval by the Council, which they approved, to send a letter to all City Council members and Mayors in the cities that are members of the VTA to ask that each city that is a member, become a voting member on the VTA Board. 9) Council member Polanski attended a League of California Cities special session regarding the budget. Vice Mayor Dixon attended a Delegate session where she was a voting member to express the City's willingness to share in some of the burden of the now \$38 billion deficit but also the importance of the City's Redevelopment Agency area expansion. The RDA is important because those are the funds where the Senior Center modular units and the new Senior Center would come from. 10) Council member Polanski asked why the Senior Advisory Commission meets on the same date of the month as the City Council meeting. She requested that the Commission consider changing it. She pointed out that it is a full month after the Council meeting occurs before she is able to report back to the Commission on what happened. Chairperson Weisgerber requested that staff investigate a new meeting date and report back. During discussion, it was pointed out that the Commission By-laws would need to be revised.

## **2.2 Council on Aging Advisory Committee**

Frances Woodworth read a report on the Senior Adult Legal Assistance (SALA) May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting conducted by Georgia Bacil, Directing Attorney. Legal assistance is offered free to those 60 years or older. 33% of cases last year were due to physical abuse; it increased from 4% to 33 1/3% in four years. No income eligibility required. Other services provided include help with SSI, Medicare-Medi-Cal, long term care, restraining order or revocation of Power of Attorney for elder abuse cases, incapacity planning, probate alternatives, simple wills. SALA services are funded by 14 agencies and cities. The SALA hotline number is 408-295-5991 and it is located at 160 E. Virginia Street, #260, San Jose. Commissioner Woodworth said she makes 20 copies of handouts she brings to the meetings. She said if persons are not reading them she will discontinue providing them. It was suggested Francis bring 5 copies to the meeting.

## **2.3 AARP**

Commissioner Wood reported on the May 15th meeting. The AARP will be working at the Senior Center on May 22 Health Fair.

AARP is becoming involved in other activities at the Pioneer Mobile Home Park. There will be a fundraiser at the Pioneer Mobile Home Park on June 7th and the proceeds will go towards the treasury. The next meeting will be June 19 and will be the last meeting until September 2003.

**2.4 Nutrition Site Council**

Joyce Dovlet read a brief report; the remaining balance of the Nutrition Site Council's account is \$581.02. Note, receipt and file.

**2.5 Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Comm.**

No report.

**2.6 Arts Commission**

No report.

**XI. Adjournment**

Supervisor Yurchak reported that this is the last meeting at which the Secretary Pro Tem, Vicki Lindeman, would be taking the minutes. She and the Commission thanked Ms. Lindeman for her assistance. Cheri Cummins will be returning from maternity leave and will attend the June 9 meeting. There being no further business, Chairperson Weisgerber adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. in the City Hall Committee Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vicki Lindeman  
Commission Secretary ProTem